

Preble to the State of Maine, to which he belongs, as it is stated in the newspapers that the Legislature of that State, immediately took it into consideration in a secret Session ; and, it is reported, that great dissatisfaction was expressed with the decision of the Arbiter.

Viscount Palmerston,
&c. &c. &c.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. R. VAUGHAN.

No. 3.

Right Hon. C. R. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 2.)

(Extract.)

Washington, March 20, 1831.

THE decision of the King of the Netherlands upon the question of boundary submitted to His Majesty's Arbitration, was received by way of Havre, by the Government of the United States on the 15th instant.

On the 18th instant a messenger was despatched with an official communication of it to the Government of the State of Maine.

I understand from Mr. Van Buren that the award of the King of the Netherlands has called forth a protest against it from Mr. Preble, the American Minister at the Hague, which I have not seen, but I understand that a copy of it was delivered to Sir Charles Bagot, and, I presume, therefore, that His Majesty's Government is already in possession of it.

This Government has resolved to abstain from any expression of an opinion, until they are in possession of the answer to their official communication of the award to the State of Maine.

No. 4.

Right Hon. C. R. Vaughan to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 23.)

(Extract.)

Washington, April 12, 1831.

WE are at length in possession of the manner in which the Governor and Legislature of Maine have received the award of the King of the Netherlands, as, on the 5th instant, a newspaper published at Portland, the seat of Government of that State, commenced the publication of documents which had been officially communicated by the President, when the award of the King of the Netherlands was transmitted to the Governor.

The first part only of these documents published in Maine has yet reached Washington, and I have the honour to enclose a copy* extracted from a newspaper.

They consist of a message from the Governor of Maine to the legislature, submitting to the consideration of the Senate and the House of Representatives, a despatch from the Secretary of State of the United States, with copies of the award of the King of the Netherlands. These documents are to be followed by a publication of the protest of Mr. Preble, of the correspondence of the latter with Sir Charles Bagot, and an account of the proceedings of the legislature.

Mr. Van Buren expresses the desire of the President, that while the matter was under deliberation, no steps should be taken by the State of Maine with regard to the disputed territory, which might be calculated to interrupt or embarrass the action of the Executive Government.

I observe in Mr. Van Buren's despatch, the Governor of Maine is informed that Mr. Preble has asked for leave of absence from his mission to the Netherlands, in order that he may return to the United States, and be further heard upon the subject of the award of the King, before any measures in regard to it are adopted by the President. The immediate compliance on the part of the Government with Mr. Preble's request, indicates that no measures will be taken by the Government until Mr. Preble shall arrive.

I have endeavoured to procure from the Secretary of State a copy of the proceedings of the legislature of Maine, which will, in time, appear in the

* See Class B, page 2.